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### NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26646

7590

12/08/2008

KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER				
LU, SHIRLEY				
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
2612				

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,346	09/02/2005	Michael Grill	10191/4088	5758

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SIGNALLING OF RELEVANT INFORMATION FOR THE OPERATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	03/09/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

#### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

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26646 7590 12/08/2008 KENYON & KENYON LLP ONE BROADWAY NEW YORK, NY 10004			I k St	Cer hereby certify that the	tificate is Fee(	e of Mailing or Transn s) Transmittal is being	nission deposited with the United t class mail in an envelope above, or being facsimile tte indicated below.
			Γ				(Depositor's name)
							(Signature)
			L				(Date)
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTO	R	ATTO	RNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,346	09/02/2005	•	Michael Grill			10191/4088	5758
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APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSU.	E FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0		\$1810	03/09/2009
EXAM	INER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS				
LU, SH	IRLEY	2612	340-439000	_			
CFR 1.363).  Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.  3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED O			registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to  2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.				
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	s SMALL ENTITY statu	is. See 37 CFR 1.27.	b. Applicant is no lo				
interest as shown by the r	records of the United Sta	tes Patent and Trademark	Office.	. the applicant, a fegi	outeu :	anorney or agent, of the	e assignee or other party in
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10/523,346	09/02/2005	Michael Grill	10191/4088 5758		
26646 75	590 12/08/2008		EXAM	INER	
KENYON & KENYON LLP			LU, SHIRLEY		
ONE BROADWA	_		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
NEW YORK, NY 10004			2612		
		DATE MAILED: 12/08/200	8		

## **Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)**

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 128 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 128 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/523,346	GRILL ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SHIRLEY LU	2612	
The MAILING DATE of this communication apperall claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 1. This communication is responsive to 4/22/08.	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in or other appropriate committee GHTS. This application is	n this application. If not included unication will be mailed in due cou	ırse. <b>THIS</b>
2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>8-24</u> .			
3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unal All b) Some* c) None of the:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * Certified copies not received:  Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	been received. been received in Applicati cuments have been receive	on No ed in this national stage application	
<ul> <li>4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give 5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1. each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the deposit of the d</li></ul>	es reason(s) why the oath of the submitted. on's Patent Drawing Revie s Amendment / Comment of the header according to 37 C sit of BIOLOGICAL MAT	or declaration is deficient.  w ( PTO-948) attached  or in the Office action of  the drawings in the front (not the backer 1.121(d).  ERIAL must be submitted. Note	ck) of
Attachment(s)  1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date  4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6.  ☐ Interview S Paper No 7.  ☑ Examiner's —	nformal Patent Application Summary (PTO-413), /Mail Date s Amendment/Comment s Statement of Reasons for Allowa	nce

#### **DETAILED ACTION**

# **Drawings**

Drawings filed on 2/1/05 are accepted.

### **Examiner's Amendment**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Aaron Deditch on 11/7/08.

1-7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A method for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

forming the information by using an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle:

forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

wherein the setpoint value for the output variable includes one of a setpoint torque, a setpoint power, and an output variable derivable from at least one of the setpoint torque and the setpoint power.

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9. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal.

- 10. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the set point value for the output variable includes a setpoint torque.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising: determining the output variable as a function of a position of the control element.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein a haptic signaling starts approximately when the optimum operating point is reached.
- 15. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising: forming the haptic signal by a restoring force acting on the control element.
- 16. (Currently Amended) A device for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an arrangement for forming the information by using an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle;

an arrangement for forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

an arrangement for determining the optimum operating point as a function of

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a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

wherein the setpoint value for the output variable includes one of a setpoint torque, a setpoint power, and an output variable derivable from at least one of the setpoint torque and the setpoint power.

- 17. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in Claim 16, wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, and wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency.
- 18. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 16, A device for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an arrangement for forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle;

an arrangement for forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

an arrangement for determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

19. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 16, A device for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an arrangement for forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle;

an arrangement for forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

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an arrangement for determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

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wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency, wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

20. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in Claim 16, further comprising: A device for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

an arrangement for forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle;

an arrangement for forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal;

an arrangement for determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit; and

a determining arrangement to determine the output variable as a function of a position of the control element;

wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency, wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

- 21. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in Claim 8, wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, and wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency.
- 22. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8, A method for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

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forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor

vehicle; forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function

of

the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8, A method for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor

vehicle; forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function

of

the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and

determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit;

wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency, wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

24. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 8, further comprising: A method for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising:

forming the information by an operating point of a drive unit of the motor

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<u>vehicle</u>; <u>forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function</u> <u>of</u>

the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal;

determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit; and

determining the output variable as a function of a position of the control element;

wherein the control element includes an accelerator pedal, wherein the optimum operating point includes an optimum engine efficiency, wherein the setpoint value of the output variable includes a setpoint torque, and wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

25. (New) The device as recited in Claim 16, wherein the instantaneous operating variable includes an engine speed.

# **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claim(s) 8-25 is/are are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not sufficiently teach or suggest the claimed limitations in their entirety in view of applicant's amendment and arguments, such as A method for signaling information relevant for an operation of a motor vehicle, comprising: forming the information using an operating point of a drive unit of the motor vehicle; forming a haptic signal at a control element of the motor vehicle as a function of the operating point, wherein an optimum operating point of the drive unit is indicated by the haptic signal; and determining the optimum operating point as a function of a setpoint value for an output variable output by the drive unit and as a function of an instantaneous operating variable of the drive unit; wherein the setpoint value for the output variable includes one of a setpoint torque, a setpoint power, and an output variable derivable from at least one of the setpoint torque and the setpoint power.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shirley Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-8546. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

SL

/Daniel Wu/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2612